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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. SHP029

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT(S):** Thörne et al.

**EXAMINER:** Cris L. Rodriguez

**SERIAL NO.:** 10/712,570

**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 8804

**FILED:** November 13, 2003

**ART UNIT:** 3763

**FOR:** *SAFETY SHIELD FOR MEDICAL NEEDLES*

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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By: 

Jodi Barrus

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2005, please consider the following amendments and the remarks set forth below.